Hello. My name is Andrew Weidig. I'm from Ellicott City, MD and I recently moved to Silver Spring and been having some problems in terms of using my pager and VRS and the relay. And those problems are consistently there over time. Overall, there are times when it's a very good service, but there's -- it seems to have a bad experience right when it's very important for me. Like one time I got a ticket and so I called the relay to talk to them about the ticket, you know, go through relay to the government office and they hung up on me, so I asked them to make that call again and try to explain. And the government office kept hanging up and it seems like some of the people within the government agencies are not aware of relay. And so when you start to tell them this you are calling through re lay, they hang up and people within the deaf community do not appreciate being hung up on. So I wanted that comment to be registered. I was in New York City and I said that we don't -- we don't accept any sales call. I said, no, I'm just calling through the relay to talk to the person about something. So I'm wondering is there something wrong with VRS?

Is there something wrong with the government agencies, these offices, they will not accept our relay calls and how do we have equal access to government offices or agencies if they don't accept our calls?

There's VRS, relay services and we now have the pagers and we want to communicate to people throughout the country. We don't want to be divided

between a deaf and hearing world. We want to be integrated. So we have these three technologies. Why not have everyone out there accept it as well?

We see hearing people using pagers and they are able to talk and we can exchange back and forth, which is fine through the pager system. But then the paging system sometimes doesn't provide us good services. Maybe a deaf person wants to have contact with someone within the hearing world so that we can be able to talk to anyone throughout the country. But we're not able to do that because of the system breakdown. And so the communication skills are very important. The technology is helping us to communicate better with people. We want -- some of us want to get into the business world, so we want to be able to develop our communication skills in order to be successful there. So it's very important to deaf people within the deaf world to have the opportunity to communicate. That's all I have to say for now. Thank you.

Andrew Weidig
13991 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, MD 20904
Ajuacko64@yahoo.com